

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY IO/UNP:MWILLIAMSON:EK

APPROVED BY IO:ROBLAKE

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TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS:PFOR, UN, RQ

SUBJECT: PUERTO RICO AND THE FUTURE

1. ARA ASST. SECY ROGERS AND IO DEPUTY ASST SECY BLAKE
MET ON FRIDAY, SEPT. 12 TO DISCUSS ROGERS' RECENT VISIT
WITH PUERTO RICO GOVERNOR HERNANDEZ COLON.

2. ROGERS EXPLAINED THAT COMMONWEALTH GOVERNMENT IS
APPREHENSIVE ABOUT ACTIVITY SIMILAR TO RECENT COMMITTEE OF
24 ACTION; THAT GOVERNOR IS MOST APPRECIATIVE OF ALL
EFFORTS UNDERTAKEN DURING RECENT ACTION; AND THAT COMMON-
WEALTH GOVERNMENT AND THE GOVERNOR WANT TO HELP. ROGERS
REPORTED THAT PUERTO RICO MIGHT MAKE BETTER USE OF CLOSE
CONTACTS WITH COSTA RICA, VENEZUELA, TRINIDAD, ETC. HE
ALSO REPORTED ASSURANCES TO GOVERNOR THAT THE DEPT WILL
MAKE REAL EFFORT IN COOPERATION WITH PUERTO RICO AND
RECOMMENDED GREATER PARTICIPATION OF PUERTO RICO IN SPOKES-
MAN ROLE. GOVERNOR HAD SAID THAT HE APPOINTED BEN
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STEPHANSKY TO COORDINATE WITH DEPT HOWEVER IT UNCLEAR

WHETHER STEPHANSKY WILL ACTUALLY TAKE WASHINGTON PUERTO RICO COMMONWEALTH OFFICE.

3. NEXT STEP IS FOR ROGERS TO CALL STEPHANSKY TO ARRANGE WORKING GROUP WITH IO AND ARA TO DEVELOP STRATEGY. BLAKE EMPHASIZED NEED FOR SHORT-TERM STRATEGY AS WELL SINCE IT POSSIBLE THAT WE FACE ISSUE AGAIN IN FOURTH COMMITTEE.

4. DEPT REQUESTS MISSION DEVELOP PROFILE ON ALL DELEGATIONS' POSITION RE PUERTO RICO AND PROVIDE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR STRATEGY AT UN. OF SPECIAL INTEREST TO DEPT:

A) WHAT COUNTRIES ARE MOST SUBJECT TO CHANGES IN THEIR POSITIONS, EITHER FAVORABLE OR UNFAVORABLE TO US?

B) WHICH DELEGATIONS HAVE MOST INFLUENCE?

C) WHICH DELEGATIONS SEEM MORE FRIENDLY OR HARD-LINE THAN THEIR GOVERNMENTS? KISSINGER

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